

13 Aug 1970

OBITUARIES

Charles Edwin Bronson, 94, the oldest resident of Wasatch County died August 10 in a Heber City nursing home of natural causes.

Mr. Bronson was a school teacher for over 60 years in Heber City, Soldier Summit, Midway and Daniel. He also served as Wasatch County recorder for six years, and an employee of the Heber City Bank.

Active in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Mr. Bronson served mission to the Central States. A member of the Wasatch Stake, he held positions in the MIA and Scouts program.

A native of Midway, Wasatch County, Mr. Bronson was born Dec. 28, 1875, the son of Everice Ruthven and Cynthia Van Wagoner Bronson. On June 10, 1903, he married Josephine Murdock in the Salt Lake LDS Temple.

Survivors include his widow; a daughter, Mrs. Fred (Dora) Norh, of Heber City; a granddaughter, Mrs. Harvey (Betty Jo) Bronson of Midway; four grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; a brother, two sisters, Clark, and Mrs. Pearl Haueter, both Midway; Mrs. Eliza Anderson of Orem.

Funeral services will be held Thursday at 1 p. m. in the Heber City Third LDS Ward Chapel. Friends may call the Olpin Mortuary in Heber City, Wednesday 7-9 p. m.; Thursday prior to services.

Burial will be in the Midway Town Cemetery.



Students in the schoolroom at Soldiers Summit, with Charles Bronson, teacher, standing in the rear of the room.

W. L. Dean and Fred C. Ferron. The first mayor was Jerry R. Springer who was deputy sheriff and operator of a coal yard. At the time of incorporation, the city had a population of more than 1,000.

One of the first major projects after incorporation was a "cinder project." The active chamber of commerce, railroad employees and school officials hauled cinders on all the main walks and streets to make it possible to travel in stormy, muddy weather.

Businesses grew up quickly in the new town, and were mainly based around railroad activity. There were general merchandise stores, restaurants, movie and entertainment houses, eating, rooming and boarding houses and other miscellaneous establishments.

School were also built to accommodate the more than 200 students who lived in the community at the time of incorporation. Five teachers were hired, a new school building of modern design was erected. Charles E. Bronson was named principal of the school.

Churches likewise were established, with the LDS ward located in the Nebo Stake of Utah County. Bishop Bills was the first bishop of the ward. The Baptists also established a church with a resident clergyman.

During the boom years, a wax mine of high purity was discovered just east of the town. The wax was dug out in large lumps, melted, refined and shipped east for industrial use. As many as a dozen men were hired at the time.

In later years, changes in railroad policy and the development of powerful engines that would negotiate the mountain passes without help,



Charles E. Bronson, now 86 years old, and still active with the Heber Riding Club, lead the Wasatch County Centennial Parade in 1959.